

2002P14189US01; 60,427-606

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) An exhaust gas re-circulation assembly comprising:
an intake housing defining an interior chamber;
an intake manifold positioned within said interior chamber and substantially enclosed by said intake housing;
a tube having a first end in communication with an exhaust gas source and a second end in communication with said intake manifold;
a first seal positioned between said tube and said intake housing; and
a second seal positioned between said tube and said intake manifold.
2. (Original) The assembly of claim 1 including a sleeve surrounding said second end of said tube, said sleeve being spaced apart from said tube to define a gap extending along a predetermined length of said tube.
3. (Original) The assembly of claim 2 wherein said sleeve has a first end directly attached to a portion of said tube and a second end spaced apart from said tube to define said gap.
4. (Original) The assembly of claim 2 wherein said gap has a variable cross-sectional area along said predetermined length.

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5. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 2 wherein said ~~tube-sleeve~~ includes a tapered body portion.

6. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 2 wherein said first seal is positioned directly between a first end of said ~~tube-sleeve~~ and said intake housing and said second seal is positioned directly between a second end of said ~~tube-sleeve~~ and said intake manifold.

7. (Currently Amended) The assembly of claim 6 wherein said first end of said ~~tube-sleeve~~ includes a first groove for receiving said first seal and said second end of said ~~tube-sleeve~~ includes a second groove for receiving said second seal.

8. (Original) The assembly of claim 7 wherein said intake housing includes a main body portion with a transversely extending boss substantially surrounding said first end of said sleeve.

9. (Original) The assembly of claim 7 wherein said intake manifold includes a main body portion with a transversely extending boss substantially surrounding said second end of said sleeve.

10. (Original) The assembly of claim 6 wherein said first end of said sleeve has a greater diameter than said second end of said sleeve.

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11. (Original) The assembly of claim 2 wherein said sleeve includes a mounting portion for attachment to said intake housing.

12. (Original) A conduit for transferring exhaust gas to an intake manifold comprising:
a tube having a first end in communication with an exhaust gas source and a second end extending into an intake manifold;

a sleeve defining a longitudinal bore wherein said second end of said tube is received within said bore;

a first seal positioned between a first end of said sleeve and a first intake component; and

a second seal positioned between a second end of said sleeve and a second intake component.

13. (Original) The conduit of claim 12 wherein said first end of said sleeve includes a first groove for receiving said first seal and said second end of said sleeve includes a second groove for receiving said second seal.

14. (Currently Amended) The conduit of claim ~~13~~12 wherein said first end of said sleeve has a greater diameter than said second end of said sleeve.

15. (Currently Amended) The conduit of claim ~~14~~12 wherein said sleeve includes a tapered body portion extending between said first and second ends of said sleeve.

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16. (Original) The conduit of claim 12 wherein said first intake component comprises an intake manifold housing and said second intake component comprises an intake manifold positioned within said intake manifold housing.

17. (Original) The conduit of claim 16 wherein said first seal directly engages said intake manifold housing and said first end of said sleeve and wherein said second seal directly engages said intake manifold and said second end of said sleeve.

18. (Original) The conduit of claim 12 wherein said sleeve is circumferentially spaced apart from said tube to define a gap that extends in a direction parallel to said longitudinal bore.

19. (New) The conduit of claim 12 wherein said first and second seals directly engage said sleeve.

20. (New) The conduit of claim 12 wherein said second end of said tube is fixed to said sleeve.